

TO THE DROITWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report for the year ending 31st December 1942



Mr. CHAIRMAN and GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year ending 31st, December, 1942.

This report is prepared on the lines indicated in circular 2773, which was issued by the Ministry of Health in March 1943. Circular 2773 did in fact suggest that the report should be prepared as set out in Circular 2604 of March, 1942.

SECTION "A"Statistics & Social Conditions of the Area.

AREA (in acres) ... ..	51,453.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1942) according to Rate Books. ... ..	3708.
Rateable Value ... ..	£69,064
Sum represented by One Penny Rate.. ... ..	£273/13/10.

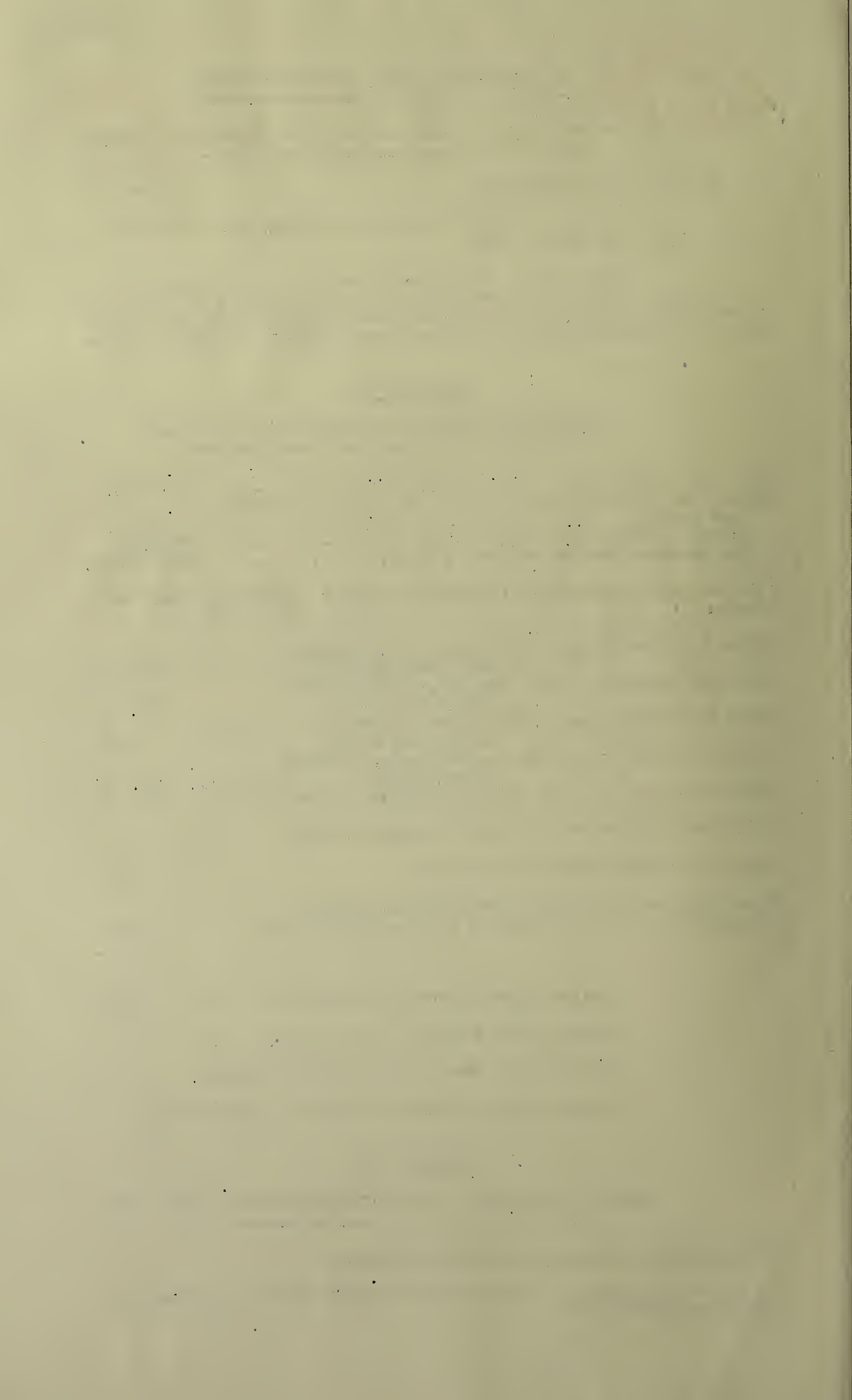
The following are extracts from the vital statistics for the Year:-

Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population (mid year 1942)	15. 78
The Live Birth Rate for the whole of England and Wales was.	15. 8
Still Birth-rate per 1,000 total (live and still births).	46
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated average population.	10. 77
The Death Rate for the whole of England & Wales was.	11. 6
Death Rate of infants under one year of age:-	
All infants per 1,000 live births.	34
This compares favourably with the Infantile Mortality Rate for England & Wales which was	49

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)...	21
Deaths from Measles (all ages)...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

SECTION "B"GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREAPublic Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical. I took up duty as your Medical Officer of Health on June 29th.



(b) Others. Mr. F.W.I. Whitehouse, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., commenced duties as Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor on December, 21st 1942., in place of Mr. W. Pembleton.

Mr. Ilsley has continued to act as an unqualified assistant to the Sanitary Inspector during the year.

There have been no changes in the Laboratory, Ambulance or Nursing Services or in the Clinics or Hospitals which continue to be satisfactory.

### SECTION "C"

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES of the AREA

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1. (a) Water. Cases of minor contamination of wells in the district have been remedied after the attention of the owners has been drawn to existing conditions.

(b) Drainage & Sewerage. The sewerage scheme at Fernhill Heath has continued to operate efficiently during the year. Samples of effluent have all been satisfactory.

2. Rivers & Streams. Possible sources of pollution of streams have been kept under observation and co-operation has continued between the officers of the County Council and the Local Sanitary Authority.

3. (a) Public Cleansing. Salvage operations have again demanded considerable attention from the Sanitary Inspector and imposed a certain strain upon the vehicles used normally for the scavenging services. Scavenging has been carried out as efficiently as possible under existing conditions, but particular attention has been paid to the more thickly populated areas.

(b) Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The report on this work prepared by the Sanitary Inspector is attached.

(c) Shops. No action was taken under the Shops Act, 1934, during the year.

(d) Camping Sites. These were kept under observation but the number of persons camping has been reduced owing to wartime conditions.

(e) Smoke Abatement. It was not found necessary to take any action during the year.

(f) Swimming Baths and Pools. The only privately owned swimming pool in the area has remained closed.

### SECTION "D"

#### HOUSING

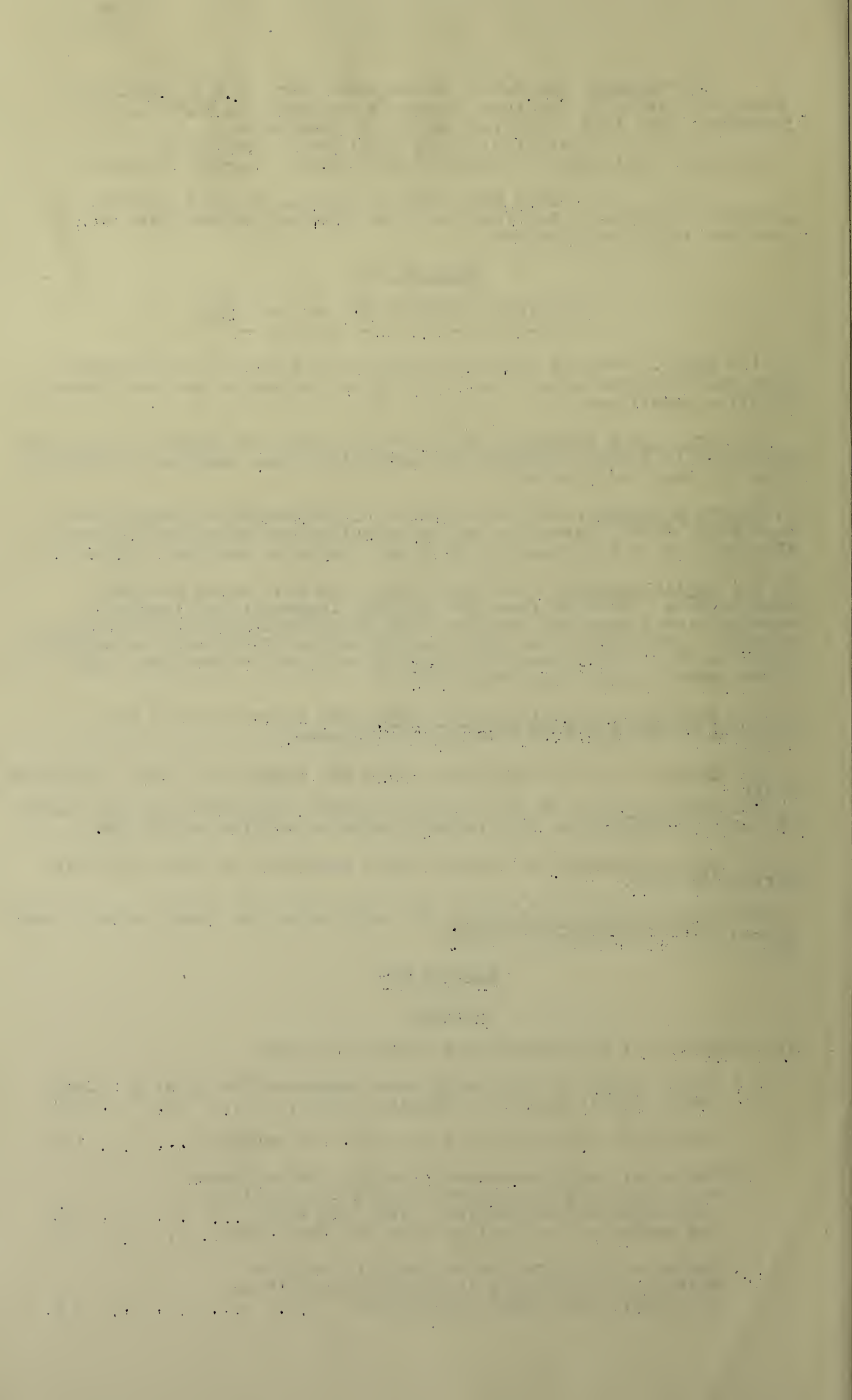
1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)... .. 150

And number of inspections made for the purpose ... .. 170

(b) Number of dwelling-houses (included above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... .. 1  
And number of inspections made for the purpose. ... .. 1

(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. ... .. 8





- (d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. ... 110

## 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.. ... 97

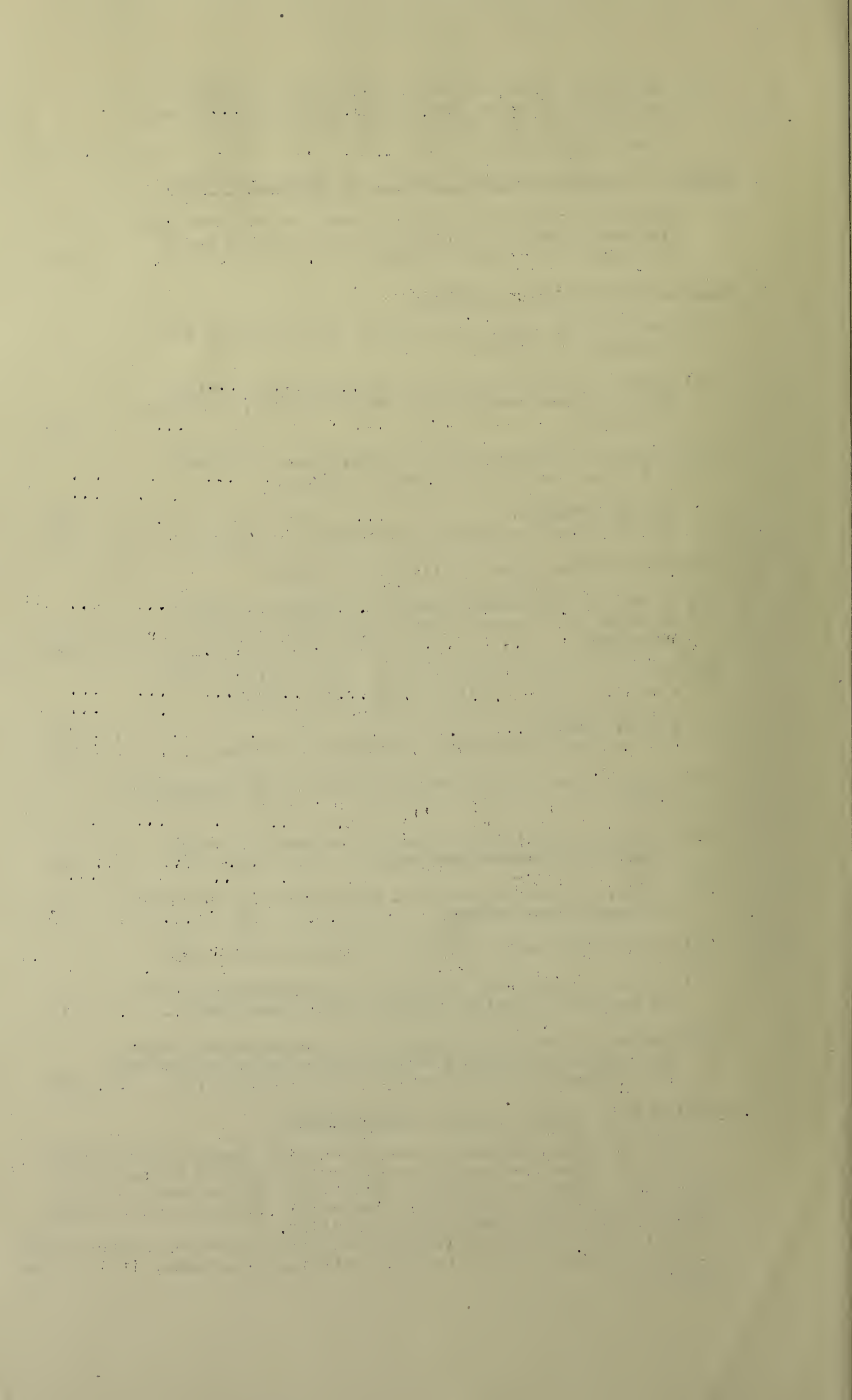
## 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS

- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs (or defects remedied) ... Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By owners ... Nil
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners.... Nil
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. ... Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By owners ... Nil
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owner ... Nil
- (c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of Housing Act 1936.
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. ... Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. ... 3
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 Housing Act, 1936.
- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.. ... Nil
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. ... Nil

## 4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. Part IV. OVERCROWDING.

The housing problem is one which will demand considerable attention after the cessation of hostilities as there is no up-to-date survey of housing conditions in the area and many houses, condemned years ago, are still occupied and becoming increasingly unfit for human habitation.

Efforts are made to relieve the worst cases of overcrowding but in the absence of a housing building programme, it is often difficult.



## SECTION "E"

### INSPECTION and SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

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- (1) Milk Supply. Milk producers' premises have been visited during the year. Samples taken for bacteriological examination were satisfactory.
- (2) Meat and other Foods. No slaughtering has been carried out in the licensed slaughter-houses.
- (3) Adulterations, etc. I am indebted to Mr. E.A. Spencer, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, for the information that 45 samples of milk and one of other foods were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.
- (4) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food. This work is carried out by the County Analyst and Bacteriologist at the County Laboratory, Worcester.

## SECTION "F"

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

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#### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children immunised under the Council's Scheme, during the year were as follows:-

(a)	Pre-school children.	...	...	52
(b)	School Children	...	...	12
TOTAL				<u>64</u>

The percentage of the child population immunised in the groups 0- 5 years and 5- 15 years was estimated at the end of the year as being 43.2% and 58.6% in the respective groups. These figures and the number of children immunised may appear low but an intensive propaganda programme was carried out throughout the area and a considerable improvement should be shown for the year 1943.

It is again pleasing to acknowledge the valuable assistance given by the school teachers, district nurses and general practitioners in the propaganda carried out and the setting up of centres for immunisation.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease in the area, from which it will be seen that no disease reached epidemic proportions.

The single case of paratyphoid fever B which occurred, together with another case in an adjoining area, originated presumably from the same source as those reported last year in the area. All necessary investigations were carried out with negative results.

(see table on next page).





Table of Infectious Diseases.

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	23	16	-
Erysipelas	2	0	-
Cerebro-Spinal) Meningitis)	1	1	1
Primary Pneumonia	3	0	-
Whooping Cough	32	0	-
Diphtheria	7	5	-
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	1	-
Measles	3	0	-
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	-
TOTALS.	75	26	1

TUBERCULOSIS. The following table gives particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease in the area during the year:-

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
35-	1	4	-	-	1	2	-	-
45-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	3	4	1	2	3	2	0	1

No action was taken in 1942 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade) or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital or persons suffering from tuberculosis).

My thanks are due to the staff for their assistance since taking up my duties and also in the preparation of this report.

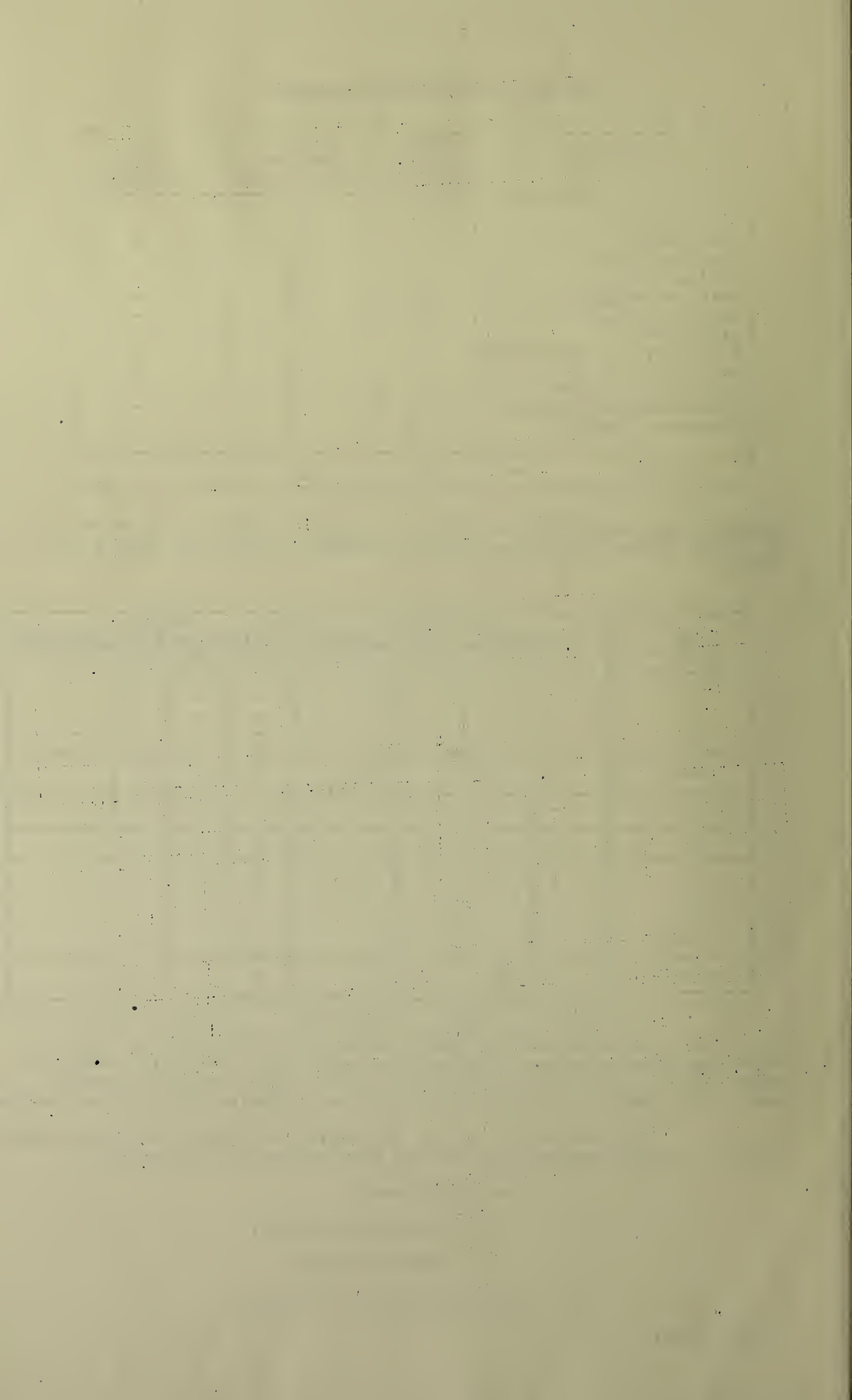
I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. ARNOLD STOBBS.

Medical Officer of Health.

APRIL, 1944.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1942.

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Health Department,  
Rural Council Offices,  
DROITWICH.

APRIL, 1944.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
DROITWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report in an abridged form for the year 1942, during which period my predecessor, Mr. W. Pembleton was in office until September, and I commenced duties on the 21st December. I am, thus, therefore, indebted to Mr. J. Ilsley, Assistant Sanitary Inspector, for much of the information contained in this Report.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

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WATER SUPPLY. The major portion of the District is dependent upon shallow wells for its source of supply. Parts of Dodderhill and Upton Warren parishes are served by the mains of the "East Worcestershire Waterworks Company", and in North Claines the Council have installed a public water supply, which is received in bulk from the City of Worcester and distributed through your Council's main. There are 458 properties connected to this supply, 10 of which were made during the period under review. Other parts of the District immediately adjoining the city, receive supplies direct through meter.

The Council's Water Inspector carries out the maintenance of the Booster Plant, meter readings and repairs, connections to mains and their maintenance.

The following is a summary of work done in connection with water supplies during the year:-

Number of Samples submitted for analysis ...	...	...	14
Number of premises supplied from waterworks. ...	...	...	10
Number of wells cleansed and repaired. ...	...	...	6
Number of premises with contaminated supplies dealt with ...	...	...	11

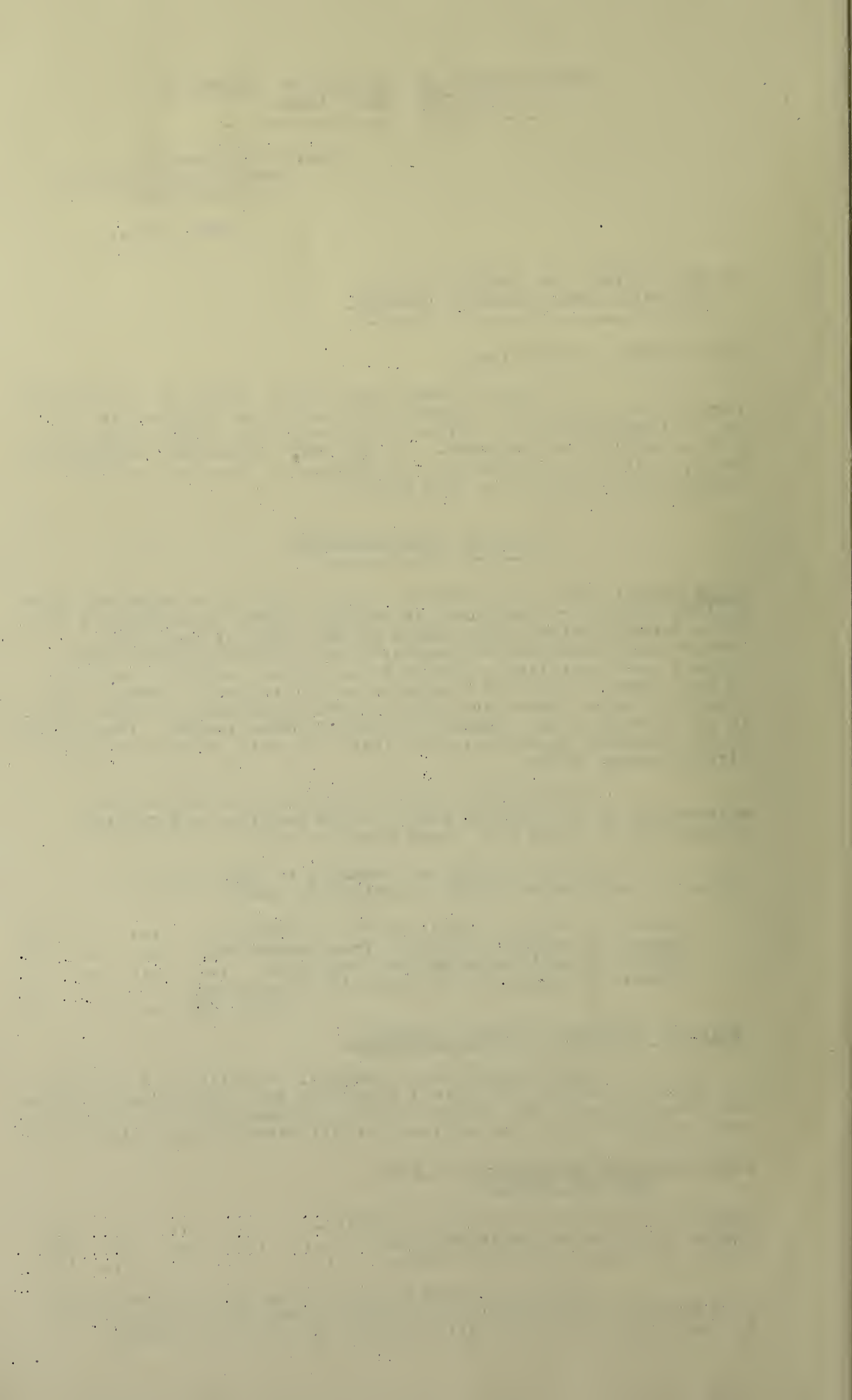
DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The various sewage disposal installations owned by the Council received periodical attention and works of maintenance were carried out. The sewage works at Fernhill Heath continued to operate efficiently, the effluent at all times being satisfactory.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD,  
MILK AND DARIES

Number of Registered Retailers of Milk...	...	...	...	78
Number of Registered Milk Producers ...	...	...	...	171
Number of Registered Dairy Farms...	...	...	...	176

Licences issued by the County Council during the year were 30 production licences for "Accredited" and "Tuberculin Tested" milks, under the Milk (Special Designations) Order.





The Council issued the following licences, viz:-

- 2 Licences to "Pasteurised" Milk.
- 1 Licence to bottle "Accredited" Milk.
- 1 Licence to bottle "Tuberculin Tested" Milk.
- 2 Supplementary licences to sell "Pasteurised" Milk.

Dairies and cowsheds were visited during the year to ensure clean milk production, concentrating upon the methods of production and provision of sterilisation. 144 Samples of Graded Milk were taken by the County Council, of which 14 proved to be unsatisfactory.

#### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

No slaughtering of animals for sale for human consumption took place in the area, all animals being slaughtered at the Ministry of Food's centralised depot.

Slaughtering of animals by private owners for their own use under licence from the Ministry of Food continued and inspection was carried out when requested.

Seven licences were issued by the Council to slaughtermen under the Slaughter of Animals Act.

It is pleasing to note that only 32 - 6lb tins of Corned Mutton and 7 tins of Carrots were condemned as being unfit for human consumption during the year.

#### NEW BUILDINGS.

The amount of development continued to be small.

Plans for 13 new buildings were deposited and dealt with, of which only 6 were dwelling-houses.

The Department worked in close collaboration with the County Planning and County Highways Departments.

#### HOUSES OWNED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

No change was affected in the number of houses owned by the Council, the Council's Houses being distributed as follows:-

NORTH CLAINES	PARISH	...	...	...	...	16
CROWLE	"	...	...	...	...	8
DODDERHILL	"	...	...	...	...	16
ELMBRIDGE	"	...	...	...	...	4
HARTLEBURY	"	...	...	...	...	18
OMBERSLEY	"	...	...	...	...	20
TIBBERTON	"	...	...	...	...	4
UPTON WARREN	"	...	...	...	...	10

The work of maintenance devolves upon this Department and inspections were periodically carried out.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

The following is a summary of matters dealt with during the year:-

No. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects...	...	150
No. of dwelling-houses found unfit for habitation.	...	5
No. of dwelling-houses found to be not in all respects fit for habitation.	...	110

The first part of the paper discusses the general principles of the method of moments, which is a statistical technique used to estimate the parameters of a probability distribution. This method is particularly useful when the distribution is skewed or has a heavy tail, as it does not rely on the assumption of normality. The second part of the paper presents the results of the analysis, showing that the method of moments provides a good fit to the data. The third part of the paper discusses the limitations of the method and suggests some ways to improve it.

1	2.2	2.7	2.2	2.2
2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
4	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
5	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
6	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
7	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
8	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
9	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
10	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2

The results of the analysis show that the method of moments provides a good fit to the data. The third part of the paper discusses the limitations of the method and suggests some ways to improve it. The fourth part of the paper presents the conclusions of the study.

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit after informal action. ....	97
No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit after formal action. ....	-
No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ....	-
No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders...	3
No. of overcrowded houses dealt with ....	12
Drains laid or relaid. ....	6
Drains trapped, ventilated or repaired...	28
New drainage systems installed ....	1
Defective drainage dealt with ....	6
Drains inspected ....	120
Defective or insanitary cesspools dealt with...	6
Insanitary closets, sinks, etc., rectified. ....	2
Ditches, etc., cleaned out...	15
Pollution of watercourses remedied ....	3
Offensive accumulations removed ....	12
Keeping of animals dealt with ....	1
Infested premises dealt with. ....	4
Dirty premises dealt with...	3
Defective sanitary conveniences (Factories) dealt with ...	1

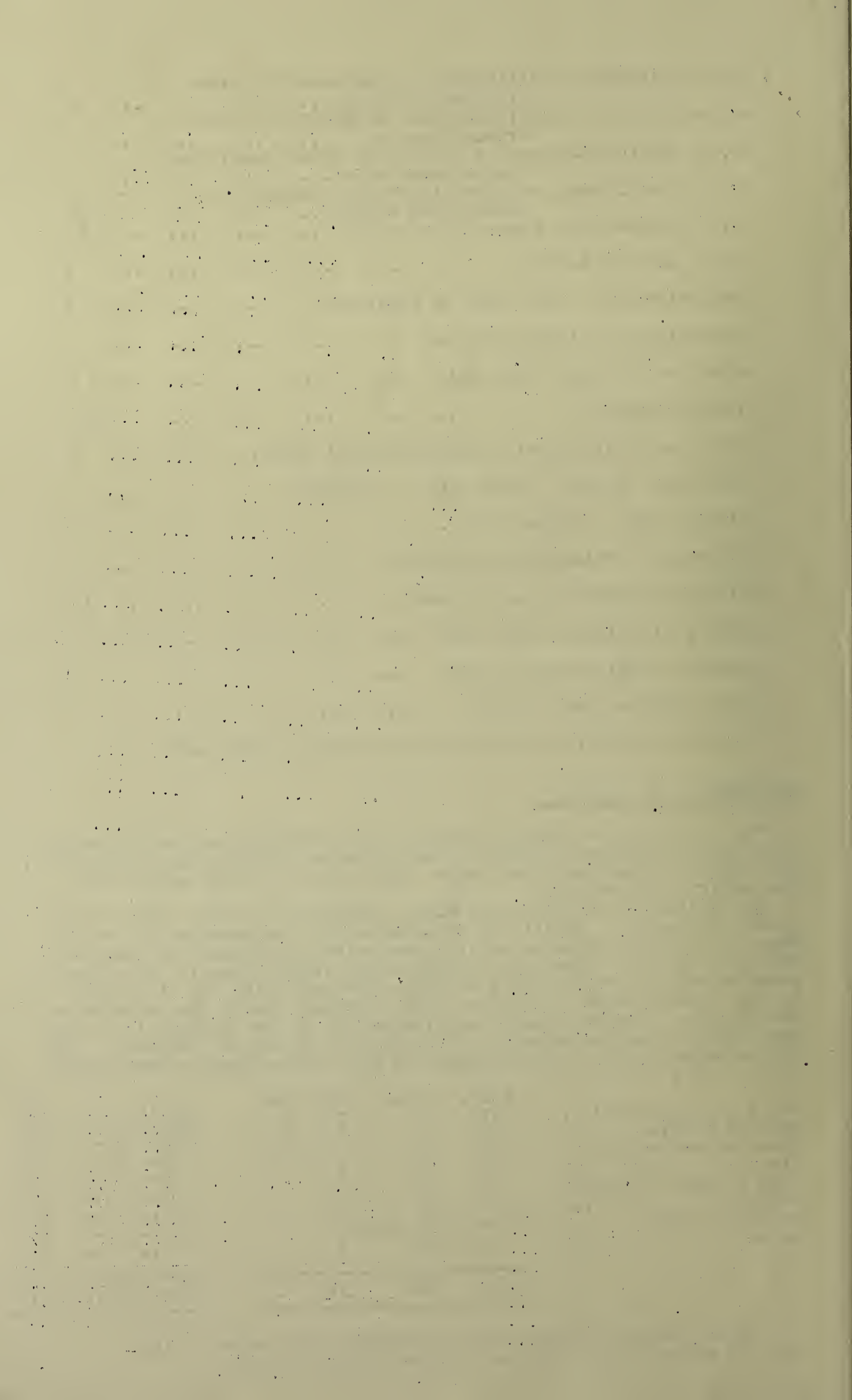
#### SCAVENGING AND SALVAGE.

The collection of domestic refuse was reasonably satisfactory in view of the scattered nature of the District and shortage of manpower. The populous areas received prior consideration at the expense of the outlying districts.

The system of salvage collection, commenced in 1941, continued to prove successful. It will be remembered that representatives of the Women's Voluntary Service collect the salvage in their own regions, and leave it at a district salvage depot from whence it is collected every month by the Council's vehicle. The materials are then taken to the Central Depot at Station Road, Fernhill Heath, for sorting and despatching. The successful working of the scheme depends to a very high degree upon the efforts of the Women's Voluntary Service, and the undermentioned table demonstrates how very energetic they proved to be:- viz.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	£...	s..	d.
Paper (all classes)...	87	1	2	-	591..	10..	11.
Ferrous Metals. ....	49	4	0	12.	138..	11..	11.
Non-ferrous Metals ...	4	4	0	16.	34..	10..	6.
Tins. ....	5	12	1	-	5..	12..	3.
Rags & other Textiles.	7	5	0	-	81..	4..	0.
Rubber. ....	9	17	2	-	14..	8..	9.
Bottles & Jars. ....	Not sold by weight.				21..	12..	4.
Bones ....	5	12	1	-	22..	1..	9.
	168.	16.	3.	-.	£909..	12..	5.

These figures compare very favourably with those of last year as shown by the figures overleaf for that year.





# SALVAGE FIGURES 1941

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	lbs.	£..	s..	d.
Paper (all classes) ...	41	4	1	-	211.	7..	2.
Ferrous Metals. ....	31	10	2	-	59.	5..	9.
Non-ferrous Metals ...	0	11	0	-	6.	15..	10.
Tins. ....	1	19	3	-	1.	19..	9.
Rags & other Textiles..	3	0	2	-	23.	2..	9.
Bottles and Jars. ....	0	15	0	-	3.	16..	10.
Bones. ....	1	15	0	-	5.	5..	9.
	80	16	0	0	£311.	13..	10.

In conclusion, I would like to express my appreciation for the assistance and help given by all Officers and Members of the Council throughout the period under review.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F.W.I. WHITEHOUSE.

Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor.

THE HISTORY OF THE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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